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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PBTS](#) [PHUM](#) [WI](#) [MO](#) [AG](#)
SUBJECT: GOA AND POLISARIO STATEMENTS ON ANNIVERSARY OF
MOROCCAN KING'S ENTHRONEMENT

REF: A. GMP20060729950027

[1](#)B. RABAT 1450

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires a.i. Thomas F. Daughton,
for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

BOUTEFLIKA'S POSITIVE MESSAGE

[1](#)1. (U) President Bouteflika's statement of congratulations to King Mohammed VI of Morocco on the seventh anniversary of the King's enthronement (Ref A) was widely reported in the Algerian press July 30. In his message, Bouteflika reiterated his steadfast determination to work with the Moroccan King to build bridges of cooperation and brotherhood, bringing bilateral ties to the highest level in order to serve the common interests of the two brotherly peoples, who are bound by a common history and future challenges. "We hope that we will work hard to build this future so that the coming generations will enjoy affluence and prosperity," wrote Bouteflika, who called for strengthening the ties of solidarity and integration, which would enable the two peoples to face "the challenges of our time, its changes, and difficulties."

POLISARIO RESTATES ITS POSITIONS

[1](#)2. (U) Separately, the Polisario Front issued July 30 a statement rejecting King Mohammed VI's call for granting autonomy to the Western Sahara within a framework of Moroccan national sovereignty (Ref B). The Polisario Front provided Embassy Algiers a copy of the statement August 2. In the statement, issued in Arabic, the Polisario Front:

-- Reiterated its condemnation of the intransigent Moroccan position on the Western Sahara;

-- Condemned the systemic and brutal repression and flagrant human rights violations committed by the Moroccan authorities against Sahrawi citizens;

-- Called for Morocco's lifting of the military and media blockade of the Western Sahara and the UN's provision of urgent and necessary mechanisms to protect Sahrawi citizens;

-- Rejected all approaches to a solution of the Western

Sahara issue outside the framework of international law and reiterated the rejection of all maneuvers aimed at encouraging the Moroccan status quo in Western Sahara; and

-- Reiterated its attachment to UN resolutions calling on the international community to step up pressures and impose sanctions on the Moroccan government to convince it to implement urgently these resolutions, especially the legitimate right of the Sahrawi people to self-determination through a free, fair, and just referendum.

COMMENT

13. (C) Algerians, perhaps taking their cue from Bouteflika's positive message, attended the Moroccan Ambassador's reception in Algiers in honor of the seventh anniversary of King Mohammed VI's enthronement in large numbers. FM Bedjaoui was the highest ranking official known to the Embassy to have attended. That said, MFA sources have told us that Bouteflika's statement should not be read as a green light for improved relations with Morocco absent positive movement on the Western Sahara issue. The statement issued by the Polisario was not unexpected, especially in advance of the unveiling of Morocco's autonomy proposal.

DAUGHTON